

FARMERS AND LABORERS.

Proceedings of the Farmers' and Laborers' Convention in St. Louis.

An Amalgamation of the Various Interests Under the Name of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

First Day.
St. Louis, Dec. 4.—Entertainment Hall of the Exposition building resounded yesterday with the stentorian voices of 150 delegates who compose the National Farmers' and Laborers' Union convention, and who represent about 2,000,000 horny-handed sons of toil west of the Alleghenies. The meeting was called to order by the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

Major Noonan was introduced and made a speech of hearty welcome, extending the freedom of the city to all the delegates and members of the convention; in fact, guaranteed that they could go anywhere to see the sights of this great city, from the pauper's grave to the beautiful art gallery. He concluded by saying that the delegates were to be treated as guests of the city, and he would step aside and allow Governor Francis to arrange for them to visit the churches.

Mr. J. H. McDowell, of Tennessee, vice-president of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union, responded in a short speech.

Major J. A. Anthony introduced Governor David R. Francis, who made an address that, from its first word, caught the indorsement and enthusiasm of the farmers, its frequent and loud applause was an index to the sentiments of the body. The Governor used his smoothest style in dealing out some length sentences against monopoly, trusts, combines and other evils of the times, and supposed to clutch the throats of the farmers.

Mr. J. A. Streater, of Illinois, was the next candidate for applause by a well-delivered and timely speech.

By this time the noon hour had arrived, and the delegates dispersed to satisfy the inner man.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
The afternoon session began at 1:30, and was of the star-chamber order. Nobody but delegates and members of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union were allowed to enter the hall.

President Jones delivered his message, in the course of which he said that the Farmers' and Laborers' Union was destined to embrace the entire agricultural and laboring population of the world, and would fight the encroachment of rings, trusts and soulless combinations, that are absorbing all the profits of labor, and thereby paralyzing the industries of the country. He recommended consolidation of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union with the National Farmers' Alliance and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association of the Northwestern States, which organizations had representatives in the city. He recommended also the appointment of a supreme judiciary to hear and try all members who had committed offenses. He advised them to cultivate the principles of co-operation. On the subject of finance the president spoke as follows:

"It is impossible to have an equitable adjustment of capital and labor so long as money is contracted below that which is adequate to the demands of commerce; hence if we would correct the abuses and powers that are now prostrating our industries, we must have a circulating medium in sufficient volume to admit of transacting our business on a cash basis. I recommend that you demand from the law-makers the coining of silver as free as gold, and that gold and silver be supplemented with treasury notes (a full legal tender) in sufficient amount to furnish a circulating medium commensurate to the business necessities of the people."

The president condemned the monopolization of lands by railroad corporations, domestic and foreign syndicates, and recommended that the body favor a law prohibiting the alien ownership of lands in America. He also asserted that the railroads had oppressed the people by unjust manipulations of transportation, and recommended that such legislation be demanded as shall regulate and control rates and classifications of freights.

The president then deplored the "now almost universal depression that pervades the laboring classes of the country," and attributed the cause to the corrupting influence of combines and corporations, and the influence of leaders. While the Farmers' and Laborers' Union was strictly non-partisan, yet it could fight these trusts and monopolies.

The afternoon was taken up in appointing committees and settling the affairs of delegates. Committees on Finance, Agriculture, Transportation, and Labor were appointed. The Farmers' and Laborers' Union, Tennessee and Mississippi had each sent two delegates—one from the wheel and one from the Alliance. As one delegate was not allowed to represent over 20,000 members, and as the above organizations had consolidated with the Farmers' and Laborers' Union, the matter was settled by throwing out portions of the delegations until they were reduced to the proper representation.

The following committee was appointed to confer with a committee of the National Alliance of the Northwestern States in regard to consolidation: H. W. Hickman, of Missouri; J. W. Mitchell, of South Carolina; J. H. McDowell, of Tennessee; J. E. Anderson, of Texas; and Myers, of Louisiana. This committee met the following Alliance committee at the Farmers' House last night: J. M. Morris, Kansas; A. W. Wardell, South Dakota; George W. Sprague, Minnesota; A. J. Streater, Illinois; John H. Powers, Nebraska; Walter Muri, North Dakota; N. B. Ashby, Iowa; Wm. Ulrich, Wisconsin; T. Y. Williams, Washington.

The Union held a night session but beyond appointing a committee on constitution and by-laws nothing of importance was done.

Second Day.
St. Louis, Dec. 5.—The Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America met yesterday morning for the second day of its session at the National convention, President Evan Jones in the chair. Besides several committees being appointed the day was one of short speeches. Each member had certain views to air, and details of organization, etc., which he aired.

The first thing decided upon was to allow all the delegates from the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association to take seats in the convention. These delegates were principally from Illinois and Indiana. The National Alliance, in a body, was received also.

C. W. Macune, past president of the Southern Alliance, which is now merged into the Farmers' and Laborers' Union, made a speech as retiring from that position. He went into the details of the history of the Alliance, and referred to the strength that can be obtained by co-operation. He thought it not advisable to establish a National exchange, but to confine the business efforts to State organizations. He offered pertinent suggestions in the matter of obtaining more accurate reports as to the strength, financial condition, etc., of the order, and also as to the crops. A National lecturer was recommended. He believed that all the evils which afflict agriculture to-day arise either directly or indirectly from unjust regulations or privileges enjoyed by other classes under a financial system, or our system of laws in regard to transportation corporations, or our land system. He stated that the Farmers' and Laborers' Union is composed of fifty per cent. of the strength of each of the political parties. Each of the parties had failed to right the wrongs imposed on the farmers, and the Farmers' Union must unite on some one needed reform and force it through legislation, no matter what party furnished the servants for the office.

After Mr. Macune had closed his address Mrs. Anna Seede Cairns appeared in the hall and delivered a short speech setting forth the objects of the Woman's Christian Tem-

perance Union. This opened a flow of prohibition sentiment, and President Jones of the convention and President J. C. Burrows of the National Alliance each made brief speeches on the subject. "Double-L" Polk, of North Carolina, spoke eloquently of the effects of the saloon, "Stump" Ashby, of Texas, relieved the monotony by delivering a speech overflowing with wit and humor.

A. J. Streater, of Illinois, who is one of the foremost leaders in the idea of consolidation of agricultural interests, delivered a speech strongly urging the organic union and co-operation of all agricultural bodies.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
The afternoon session was occupied in the selection of the following committees:
On Finance—H. Beeman, chairman, Mississippi; J. B. Reid, South Carolina; R. W. McKee, Tennessee; Elias Carr, North Carolina; J. B. M. Morris, Kansas.
On Cotton Bagging and Tare—A. M. Street, of Mississippi, chairman; W. S. Morgan, Arkansas; Elias Carr, North Carolina; P. Hackhouse, South Carolina; L. F. Livingston, Georgia; R. T. Kall, Alabama; R. C. Sledge, Texas; R. C. E. Byrd, in an Territory; J. J. Givens, Louisiana; R. M. Horde, Tennessee; R. F. Rodgers, Florida.
On Constitution—J. W. Macune, chairman; L. Polk, North Carolina; W. J. Talbert, South Carolina; J. B. Buchanan, Tennessee; Robert Beverly, Virginia.
On Conference with National Alliance—H. W. Hickman, Missouri; R. C. Patty, Mississippi; Mann Page, Virginia; R. H. Glover, Kentucky; U. S. Hall, Missouri; F. M. Blunt, Mississippi; R. H. Glover, Kansas; Mann Page, Kentucky; R. H. Miles, J. D. Hammond, W. H. Barton, of Oklahoma; N. A. Manning, Maryland; S. M. Adams, Alabama; J. D. Hickman, North Carolina; D. K. Morris, South Carolina; Betty Ashby, Texas; R. T. Peck, Indiana; R. C. Stett, Indiana Territory; W. S. Morgan and J. Mann.
On Printing—L. L. Polk, J. H. McDowell, John Ashby, H. C. McCall and R. J. Sledge.
On Monetary System—C. W. Macune, L. L. Polk, W. S. Morgan, L. F. Livingston and Stump Ashby.
On Land Interests—J. F. Tillman, Tennessee; S. B. Erwin, B. Kendrick, J. A. Pettis, W. H. Barton.
On Transportation—S. B. Alexander, North Carolina; Lyland, of Arkansas; Harry Tracy, Texas; E. P. Mitchell, J. W. Rodgers.
No night session was held, as many of the farmers wished to attend the Knights of Labor meeting at Central Turner Hall.

Third Day.
St. Louis, Dec. 6.—The Farmers' and Laborers' Union closed their third day's session last night.

President Jones occupied the chair and called the morning session to order at nine o'clock. Committees were sent out, and quite an amount of routine work accomplished. A speech was made by J. H. McDowell, of Tennessee, who was appointed to confer with Messrs. Powderly, Beaumont and Wright in regard to co-operation with the Knights of Labor. This took up the time on the morning session, and adjournment was announced at 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.
The afternoon session was given over entirely to the representatives of the Knights of Labor, who appeared to expound the principles of their order and let the farmers hear and know what they believed and were striving for. General Master Workman Powderly was the first to address the body, and he was accorded generous applause. He began by reciting in a distinct, clear and concise manner the history of the various labor movements that have sprung up since 1825. He reviewed the workings of the National Labor Union, founded in 1825, and the National Union, which started just after the war—in 1891. He then came down to the Industrial Brotherhood, founded in 1896, and the Knights of Labor, organized in 1869, and its workings up to the present time. He gave a forcible description of the different phases of the labor movement, the obstacles they had to contend in fighting for recognition before the public, and the obstacles in dealing with employers. In this review Mr. Powderly showed that he was thoroughly conversant with all the information relating to labor organizations for twenty-five years past. He touched lightly on the subject of co-operation between the Knights of Labor and the Farmers' and Laborers' Union, but his remarks in this respect were cautious and judicious, and the sentiments expressed were just the kind to be evoked by the farmers, as was evidenced by their frequent applause. Mr. Powderly told them that whatever the Farmers' and Laborers' Union was working for, he thought there would be no trouble in having the Knights join in the program, in fact, he believed the Knights would go the entire program with them. He did not come to ask the farmers to indorse anything in the Knights of Labor platform that they deemed inconsistent with their views, and on the other hand he didn't think the farmers would ask the Knights to indorse anything contrary to their principles. But there was unequivocally some great principles identical to both bodies, upon which both could unite, and which combined strength and influence bring about legislation that both classes desire. These questions identical with both bodies—or, at least, some of them—were labor and products, the exchange of products and financial matters. The Knights, he flatteringly, but sincerely declared, are willing to aid the farmer in obtaining laws that will allow a proper remuneration for labor and products. The co-operation of the two organizations could be effected on these lines by establishing a sort of trusteeship, or commission, composed of Knights and farmers, who would have charge of all labor and products. The co-operation of both bodies. It might be called a National executive committee of Knights and Farmers, who would look after legislation.

General J. A. Weaver, of Iowa, appeared on the platform in the afternoon, and made a speech of some length, the main argument of which was confined to the great corporations of which was the Constitution of the United States declared that the Government should control and regulate commerce, and that Daniel Webster in a speech in the Senate interpreted that to be three prominent principles: (1) Currency, which was a promoter of commerce, and the Government could regulate that; (2) Transportation of the products of the country; (3) Transmission of intelligence by the post and telegraph systems. Mr. Weaver said the Government had farmed out these great prerogatives which belonged to the people. The National currency had been farmed out to corporations called National banks. The telegraph and post offices had been farmed out to great railway corporations. The transmission of intelligence in the form of the telegraph was owned by one man virtually. The result was that the Government was nothing but a bull. The first thing the people want to do is to regain the possession of these rights farmed out to corporations. When they have accomplished that they could then consider that the Government had been restored to the people—where it belongs.

Mr. Ralph Beaumont, of New York, and Mr. A. M. Wright, of Toronto, Ont., members of the Knights of Labor committee, spoke three-quarters of an hour each on Knights of Labor principles.

"Stump" Ashby, of Texas, in his own witty way, replied for the farmers, and assured the knights that co-operation could no doubt be effected.

During the afternoon the National Alliance in a body was admitted with a cordial greeting. To consolidation has been effected. The matter comes up for consideration to-day. The joint committee of the two bodies decided upon a plan like this: A central organization composed of members from both bodies should be established to continue for a year, but work independently, yet in line with the National Farmers' and Laborers' Union, and also work on some special questions not noticed at present by the Farmers' and Laborers' Union. At the end of the year if the States had ratified the consolidation proposition, then the Alliance would die and be merged into the Farmers' and Laborers' Union.

The night session heard a partial report of the committee on constitution. The Farmers' and Laborers' Union sent an invitation for the farmers to appoint a committee of conference to improve Western wayways.

Fourth Day.
St. Louis, Dec. 7.—Yesterday's session of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union convened at eight o'clock, with President Jones in the chair. The entire forenoon was occupied in the discussion of the new constitution, and the adjustment of the representation from the States to the National conventions, and to the report of the committee on constitution. Both male and female are allowed to become members of the order, and both males and females are allowed to be sent as delegates to the National convention, yet so far only male members have acted in the capacity of delegates. The basis of representation is on the numerical force of members, both male and female, one delegate being allowed for each 20,000 members in a State, and also a State being granted two delegates at large. Yet it was decided that the dues from each State to the National convention should be charged only on the male membership. The sum of five cents per year is imposed upon each male member.

The committee on a new constitution reported yesterday afternoon. The whole constitution had been revised, yet the same principles are advocated under cover of different verbiage. In a few instances material changes have been made. One word was stricken out of a clause that appeared in the old constitution, which will have great weight in the organization of new lodges. It was formerly made a qualification for membership that the applicant should be a "country laborer or mechanic." The word "country" is now stricken out, and therefore city laborers and mechanics can become members as well as the yeomanry of the country. This is a loophole through which many mechanics who belong to the Knights labor in the smaller towns can enter the farmers' order. The money question was incorporated again.

The race question came up in the afternoon proceedings. A clause of the new constitution was to the effect that it would be optional with each State organization whether the colored man should be admitted as a member of the white order. This, of course, was the cause of much debate. The Southern members, who composed the majority of the order, were in favor of placing some restriction on the negro. While they allowed him to become a member of local orders, yet it was explicitly declared that he could not be eligible as a delegate to a National convention. The clause was "optional with each State" whether the negro can come into full fellowship.

The regulation of the transportation of products, the equalization of taxes and the regulation of land were the subjects of discussion in the new as in the old constitution. "The oppressions of the farmer," must be lifted by new legislation.

The session wrestled for several hours with the new constitution, until it was finally decided that the National Farmers' and Laborers' Union should be known as the Supreme Council, and the executive committee will be called the National Farmers' and Laborers' Union.

The election of officers was taken up late in the afternoon. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, was elected president. His opponents in the race were C. W. Macune, president of the late Southern Alliance, and Vice-President Isaac McCracken. President Jones refused to run again. The election of officers was taken up late in the afternoon. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, was elected president. His opponents in the race were C. W. Macune, president of the late Southern Alliance, and Vice-President Isaac McCracken. President Jones refused to run again. The election of officers was taken up late in the afternoon. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, was elected president. His opponents in the race were C. W. Macune, president of the late Southern Alliance, and Vice-President Isaac McCracken. President Jones refused to run again.

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Fifth Day.
St. Louis, Dec. 8.—Yesterday morning's session of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union was occupied in discussion of new features in the constitution that were adopted.

The new features relate generally to changes in the secret work. Statutory laws for the government of the body were passed, and the constitution of the order was amended. South Dakota and Kansas delegations from the Northern Alliance knocked at the doors for admission and were taken into full fellowship. They accepted the instructions in secret work, and some time was consumed in its explanation.

The business agents held several sessions during the week for the purpose of organizing an association and formulating a plan of action. J. B. Dines, of St. Louis, acted as chairman, and Oswald Wilson, of New York, secretary. Their report was ratified by the convention yesterday, and, in substance, is as follows: The name of this branch of work shall be the States Business Agents' Association. The object is to promote and encourage the exchange of the various articles consumed and produced in the different sections of the country, so as to have them pass directly from the producer to the consumer. They will also assist each other in devising the best means for encouraging the membership in the respective States to confine their trading entirely to the channels recommended by their State organizations. The business agents will also collect reports as to the condition of the crops annually. The members of this association are confined to the State business agents and managers of exchanges established under the auspices of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union. The following are members of this association: J. S. Bird, of Alabama; W. W. Holland and T. W. Haynes, of Kentucky; Geo. A. Gowan, Tennessee; J. O. Winn and Felix Corput, Georgia; T. A. Clayton, Louisiana; W. H. Worth, North Carolina; D. B. Mayfield, Arkansas; T. J. Gallows, Tennessee; W. H. Cessa and A. S. Mann, Florida; G. G. Cross, Dakota; Allen Root, Nebraska; J. J. Furlong, Minnesota; August Post and J. M. Hoskins, Iowa; L. Seaver, Washington; M. B. Wade, Kansas; S. W. Wright, Jr., Illinois; S. P. A. Brubaker, Virginia; B. G. West, Mississippi; W. B. Collier, Missouri; Colonel L. May, Wisconsin; W. Cox, Kansas; J. A. Mudd, Maryland; J. B. Dines was elected permanent president for the coming year; W. W. Holland vice-president, and Oswald Wilson secretary.

The Business Agents' Association is simply an organization to do away with the middlemen in the farmers' trade. Each State has an exchange, from which travel the business agents to take orders from the co-operative farmers' stores over the counties. The subject of a national exchange was discussed at New York was discussed at some length, but it was considered advisable not to enter into that arrangement at present.

There was no adjournment for dinner, the session lasting from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., as the Farmers' and Laborers' Union was in session. A new committee was organized, to be known as the Judiciary committee. The men elected to compose it were R. C. Patty of Mississippi, chairman, to serve three years; McCracken, of Arkansas, to serve two years, and Evan Jones, of Texas, to serve one year. One new member will thus be elected each year. This committee is similar to a trial court. All differences that arise between the local and State lodges, which can not be suitably settled by the State bodies, can be appealed to the Judiciary committee for final jurisdiction.

The members of the new executive committee for the ensuing year are: C. W. Macune (chairman), of Washington City, and A. Wardell, of South Dakota, and J. E. Tillman, of Tennessee. It is probable that the executive committee will meet the Knights of Labor committee and jointly act as a legislative committee in Washington to look after the pushing of such measures as both bodies have mutually agreed upon.

The headquarters of the Industrial Union have been permanently located in Washington City, where the president and secretary of the union and also the chairman of the executive committee will establish their offices and transact business.

President Polk, Secretary Turner and Treasurer Hickman will each draw a salary of \$2,000 per annum. The president is also the secretary, which will cost him an additional cost of at least \$1,000 per annum. The chairman of the executive committee, Dr. C. W. Macune, will also receive a salary of \$2,000 a year.

The only committee members that get salaries are the three of the Judiciary committee, who each get \$2,000 a year. The total amount of salaries borne by the National treasury is \$15,000, and incidental expenses will run it up to at least \$20,000 a year.

At present the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union has 1,200,000 voters and 100,000 more from the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association will come in during the year. The Northern Alliance States that have already joined will command at least 500,000 voters, and the Farmers' and Laborers' Union has 2,000,000 voters in the Union by spring. The total number of farmers in the United States is 4,500,000. The Farmers' Union, therefore, controls about half of the agricultural population of the country. The Knights of Labor have 213,000 members in good standing, and they will join the farmers in urging legislation to be agreed upon.

The convention adjourned to meet on the second Tuesday in December, 1890, at Jacksonville, Fla.

GOOSE CREEK ISLAND.
One of the Most Unique Places to Be Found in the South.

Goose Creek Island on the North Carolina coast is one of the most inaccessible, un-com-at-able places to be found in the South. Its area comprises several thousand acres, and its soil is unusually fertile and admirably adapted for the raising of cattle. The island is surrounded for many miles inland by almost impassable swamps; access by water is had through a narrow, tortuous channel only navigable by the smallest of craft. For miles around the water outside of the passage way is only a few inches in depth, and a man in rubber boots could wade dry shod all day along this worthless stretch of water, which is too shallow for fish and too deep for agriculture. Hence the islanders lead a very retired and isolated life, practically as much shut off from the world as if they were in the midst of the Atlantic. There are about 250 houses on the place, mostly cabins, though there are several well-to-do planters who, educated and refined, keep aloof socially from the poor and illiterate inhabitants. The women of the latter class are buxom, but with no form to speak of. None of them wear corsets. Their complexion is of the same muddy, unhealthy color as the men's. The girls are shy and retiring, but still are daughters of Moths Eve, and in their way they strive to keep up with the latest fashions. Their principal dress is of calico cut straight, and many of them use bustles, and, as newspapers are scarce, they employ dried sea grass bunched in a knot, and as their dress is not fashioned long behind, it tilts up in a most comical manner, and displays to a looker on an expansive view of their home-made yarn stockings.—Forest and Stream.

—A man from the country went to Braxton, W. Va., the other day, and had his measure taken for a coffin and to be buried in it.

SELECTING BREEDING SWINE.
An Interesting Paper Read Before the American Polished China Record Company by President H. M. Sisson.
The first indispensable requisite of a good breeder is the possession of a good constitution and inherited good health. You know Bob Ingersoll said that if he had arranged things in this world he would have made good health catching instead of disease. We want good health "catching" in our hogs instead of "hog cholera." In order to accomplish this we must select our breeders that are active, hardy, vigorous and capable of reasonable endurance. If we expect to obtain these desirable qualities we must select those that have proper frame as a foundation. The bone must be of good quality, shape and size; hard, fine-grained and strong. Coarse, soft, spongy bone will not answer. Nor can you accept bone too small or fine.

The framework of the breeding stock we select should be of such size and form that all the vital organs can have ample and harmonious development. Length, breadth and depth should be considered. We can not too strongly recommend the necessity of good, rough, solid feet, short pasterns and good, straight legs of only medium length. It is hardly necessary to look at the feet as many times as Sheep advises. In ordinary cases five or six times will be enough, as we will need a little time to examine other parts of their organization. It is equally necessary that the covering of the frame be of good material. Strong tendons, well-developed muscles and firm flesh are required.

Such animals as I have described are the result of long and intelligent selection through many generations, that have had all the advantages of proper food, exercise and general good treatment. It seems to me absolutely necessary that the two kinds of food—carbonaceous (or fat forming) and nitrogenous (or flesh or bone forming)—should have been used in proper proportions in order that the desired result may have been produced. Consequently in making a wise selection of animals for breeding purposes only such should be chosen as are descended from a long line of ancestors that have had the advantages of a substantial compliance with the above conditions.

We should not only select pigs of proper form, but they should show sufficient indications that they are growing and will attain the proper size. I am not in favor of overgrown, coarse hogs, and do not believe they are as profitable or sell as well in the market as those of medium bone. I am aware there is a great demand for large and coarse pigs for breeding purposes. This is largely due, probably, to the fact that corn (which is not a bone producer) forms so large a portion of their diet to the exclusion of food that is bone producing; consequently the bone is always decreasing in size, hence the demand for pigs of large bone to correct the evil. The remedy for this is the substitution of sufficient nitrogenous food, as rye, oats, bran, shorts, middlings, oil-meal, grass and clover, not forgetting also an ample supply of wood ashes, which is one of the best bone builders and worm destroyers, and may perhaps have a favorable and ameliorating influence on "swirls."—Breeder's Gazette.

Take Care of the Tools.
Whether on large or more limited farms it is of great importance that all implements and machinery be kept in good working order, and this is especially necessary where two or more men work in conjunction. A broken machine stops the whole work. The best and most durable tools should, therefore, be selected and purchased, and as soon as their season of use passes, they are to be cleaned, polished, oiled, or otherwise fitted for storing away, that they may be ready without delay for future use when the time again comes round. For example, after spring work is completed, the plows, harrows and other pulverizing tools should be put in the best condition, and after having and harvest the rakes, forks, mowers and reapers should receive the same attention.

If the suggestions which we have made in the preceding remarks are efficiently carried out, if the machines and arrangements are made to fit the size of the farm and the amount of farm force employed, and if the tools, buildings and fences are never allowed to become broken or defective, there is nothing to prevent the whole year's routine of farm operations being carried on with very little interruption, with satisfaction to the owner or occupant, and without the annoyance and vexation attending the use of broken tools, delayed work and confused operations.

Hog-Holder.
Mr. H. L. Mendenhall, of Henry County, Ind., sends to Farm and Fireside an illustrated description of a box for holding hogs while ringing them. The box is made about ten feet long, six feet wide at one end and three feet wide at the other, and made high enough to prevent hogs from jumping over. The

CTW straw as bedding for sheep keeps the dirt out of the wool, and affords a dry place for the sheep at night. The shed in which sheep remain at night should be frequently cleaned in order to avoid accumulations of droppings. As the fall rains approach, and the weather remains damp, sheep easily take cold, which is accompanied with discharges at the nostrils. Dry shelter and bedding will greatly assist in warding off this difficulty.

THE HOT BED.
Directions for Constructing—Should Be Well Located.
Please give directions for a hot bed. I propose to get information upon this matter in time this year, writes a correspondent to the Western Rural. It is a good plan to seek information early. Locate the hot bed where it will be free from the wind. Give it protection on the north, if possible. A board fence is a good protection. Build the frame of boards, the rear a foot lower than the front in order to give the proper start. Construct it so that the sash will not need to be too large for convenient handling. When the manure is put into the frame have it hot and moist. You can construct the hot bed wholly above ground or partly under ground.

If it is all above ground, however, and the bed is made very early, you must bank up with manure on the outside to the top of the frame. Pack the manure evenly in the bed. This may be done by placing boards on top and slipping from one to another and moving them about as may be necessary. If you want an early bed put in a foot and a half of manure and six inches of soil.

Guard against cold by placing in a sheltered place, as we have already directed, by banking up with manure, and cover the beds at night with mats or straw. Guard against heat by opening the beds a little when the sun is warm. A cold frame, we may say in this connection, is the same as a hot bed except the manure. You construct the frame and cover with sash as you do a hot bed, but the sun furnishes the warmth.

The ivy-leaved geranium likes plenty of sun, but it is one of those plants that appear well adapted to the many wants of many people, and thrives in hanging baskets and in pots under verandas, in vases fully exposed in the open air, in pots in windows or in window boxes, or in the greenhouse. Give it good soil and a fair supply of water in the growing season and plenty of sun, and it has the best conditions it demands.—Vick's Magazine.

WIND POWER.
No More Hand Churning—A Hard Task Made Easy.
There is no more need of turning the crank or lifting the dasher of the churn, says a contributor to Farm and Home, for the little arrangement which I illustrate does away with this manual labor. The cut explains itself. A balance wheel must be arranged at one end of an axle and a four or six-winged wheel to catch the wind at the other. In the center the rod must be bent in the shape of the letter U. As the axle revolves this plays the pitman up and down, and

being attached to the dasher of the churn or the handle of the crank it will do the work effectively.

The churn stands safely in the box, which must be of adequate size. A hole must be bored through the upright, just above the rim of the balance wheel, and a heavy pin kept handy to insert through the wheel into the hole which it fits to hold the sails from turning when it is necessary to look at the butter. Handles are provided at the bottom of the box for turning it into the wind. When not in use the wings may be taken off and housed until needed again. The remainder of the crude machine can be left out of doors. Any boy can make one and so help out the work of women who have to churn by hand.

FAST WALKERS.
A Quality the Farm Horse Should Possess.
In purchasing or hiring a plow horse stake out a mile of road. Mount the horse and see how many minutes it will take him to walk a mile. A horse that will walk three miles an hour is worth at least three times as much as a horse that walks but two miles. The three-mile horse not only does as much work in two days as the two-mile horse does in three, but he enables the man behind the plow to do fifty per cent. more work in a day than he can do behind the two-mile horse. And the man and horse consume with the slow team fifty per cent. more rations in doing the same work than the fast walker does. In twelve months the man would do no more carting and plowing with the slow horse than he would do in eight months with the fast walker.

Suppose a farmer to hire a man and a two-mile horse to do an amount of plowing and carting that it takes three months to perform, and pays \$3 a month for the horse, \$3 for his feed, and \$18 for the man, who boards himself; \$24 a month, three months, \$72. If he hires the same man at \$18 a month and pays \$3 for horse feed, and \$4 for a fast walker, he can do in two months what the slow team would do in three. Two months, fast team and feed and plowman, at \$25 a month, \$50. Direct loss by slow horse, \$22. Besides, the work done by the slow horse is not so well or seasonably done—the seed may be put in the ground too late, the grass may get ahead of the plow, and the indirect loss by the slow team may be serious, besides the \$22 loss, as stated above.—N. O. Picayune.

THE HOT BED.
Directions for Constructing—Should Be Well Located.
Please give directions for a hot bed. I propose to get information upon this matter in time this year, writes a correspondent to the Western Rural. It is a good plan to seek information early. Locate the hot bed where it will be free from the wind. Give it protection on the north, if possible. A board fence is a good protection. Build the frame of boards, the rear a foot lower than the front in order to give the proper start. Construct it so that the sash will not need to be too large for convenient handling. When the manure is put into the frame have it hot and moist. You can construct the hot bed wholly above ground or partly under ground.

If it is all above ground, however, and the bed is made very early, you must bank up with manure on the outside to the top of the frame. Pack the manure evenly in the bed. This may be done by placing boards on top and slipping from one to another and moving them about as may be necessary. If you want an early bed put in a foot and a half of manure and six inches of soil.

Guard against cold by placing in a sheltered place, as we have already directed, by banking up with manure, and cover the beds at night with mats or straw. Guard against heat by opening the beds a little when the sun is warm. A cold frame, we may say in this connection, is the same as a hot bed except the manure. You construct the frame and cover with sash as you do a hot bed, but the sun furnishes the warmth.

The ivy-leaved geranium likes plenty of sun, but it is one of those plants that appear well adapted to the many wants of many people, and thrives in hanging baskets and in pots under verandas, in vases fully exposed in the open air, in pots in windows or in window boxes, or in the greenhouse. Give it good soil and a fair supply of water in the growing season and plenty of sun, and it has the best conditions it demands.—Vick's Magazine.

WIND POWER.
No More Hand Churning—A Hard Task Made Easy.
There is no more need of turning the crank or lifting the dasher of the churn, says a contributor to Farm and Home, for the little arrangement which I illustrate does away with this manual labor. The cut explains itself. A balance wheel must be arranged at one end of an axle and a four or six-winged wheel to catch the wind at the other. In the center the rod must be bent in the shape of the letter U. As the axle revolves this plays the pitman up and down, and

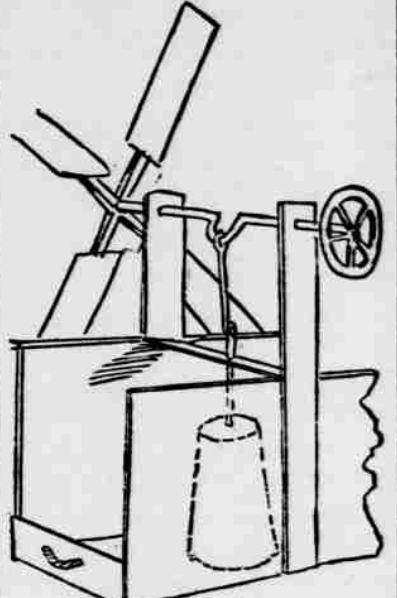
being attached to the dasher of the churn or the handle of the crank it will do the work effectively.

AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

WIND POWER.

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WIND-POWER DEVICE.

being attached to the dasher of the churn or the handle of the crank it will do the work effectively.

The churn stands safely in the box, which must be of adequate size. A hole must be bored through the upright, just above the rim of the balance wheel, and a heavy pin kept handy to insert through the wheel into the hole which it fits to hold the sails from turning when it is necessary to look at the butter. Handles are provided at the bottom of the box for turning it into the wind. When not in use the wings may be taken off and housed until needed again. The remainder of the crude machine can be left out of doors. Any boy can make one and so help out the work of women who have to churn by hand.

FAST WALKERS.

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